

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:

an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

wherein

said printing apparatus ~~printsis capable of printing~~ a correction pattern including dots on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved, said correction pattern having two separate areas that are selected to make said correction, and

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head.

2. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said correction pattern has a plurality of sub-patterns, and

each sub-pattern is made of dots arranged in a main-scanning direction and the sub-scanning direction.

3. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein

each said sub-pattern has forward-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the forward pass through which said head is moved and return-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the return pass through which said head is moved, and

an amount of misalignment between a position at which the forward-pass dots are formed and a position at which the return-pass dots are formed is different for each sub-pattern.

4. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

a spacing in a main-scanning direction between the dots forming said correction pattern is the same regardless of said size.

5. (currently amended): A printing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said predetermined spacing is at least twice the spacing in the sub-scanning direction between the dots of said correction pattern.

6. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a density detection member for detecting a density of said sub-patterns;

wherein

the misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return

pass through which said head is moved is corrected based on a result of the density detected by said density detection member.

7. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:

an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

wherein

said printing apparatus ~~prints~~ is capable of printing a correction pattern including dots on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved, said correction pattern having two separate areas that are selected to make said correction,

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head, and

said printing apparatus is capable of

receiving command information from a user based on said correction pattern, and,

based on the command information, correcting a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved.

8. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:

an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

wherein

said printing apparatus ~~prints~~ is capable of printing a correction pattern including dots on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved, said correction pattern having two separate areas that are selected to make said correction,

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head,

said correction pattern has a plurality of sub-patterns,

each sub-pattern is made of dots, which form the dots of said correction pattern, arranged in a main-scanning direction and the sub-scanning direction,

each said sub-pattern has forward-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the forward pass through which said head is moved and return-pass dots that are formed with a predetermined spacing therebetween during the return pass through which said head is moved,

an amount of misalignment between the forward-pass dots and the return-pass dots is different for each sub-pattern,

a spacing in the main-scanning direction between the dots forming said correction pattern is the same regardless of said size,

said predetermined spacing is at least twice the spacing in the sub-scanning direction between the dots that make up said correction pattern,

said printing apparatus further comprises a density detection member for detecting a density of said sub-patterns, and

the misalignment between a position at which the dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which the dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved is corrected based on a result of the density detected by said density detection member.

9. (currently amended): A correction pattern comprising:

forward-pass dots that are formed by an ejection head during a forward pass through which said head is moved, said ejection head being capable of selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium; and

return-pass dots that are formed by said ejection head during a return pass through which said head is moved;

wherein

said correction pattern is for correcting a misalignment between a position at which the forward-pass dots are formed and a position at which the return-pass dots are formed, said correction pattern having two separate areas that are selected for said correcting, and

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head.

10. (currently amended): A computer system comprising:

a computer main unit; and

a printing apparatus that has an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium, is connected to said computer main unit, and is capable of performing printing to the printing medium; and

wherein

said computer system ~~prints~~ is capable of printing a correction pattern including dots on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a

position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved, said

correction pattern having two separate areas that are selected to make said correction, and

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head.

11. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

an ejection head for selectively ejecting ink droplets of a plurality of sizes to form dots on a printing medium;

wherein

said printing apparatus prints a correction pattern including dots on said printing medium, said correction pattern enabling correction of a misalignment between a position at which dots are formed during a forward pass through which said head is moved and a position at which dots are formed during a return pass through which said head is moved,

a spacing in a sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a certain size from said ejection head is different from a spacing in the sub-scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of a different size from said ejection head, and

a spacing in a scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting ink droplets of said certain size from said ejection head is equal to a spacing

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in the scanning direction between dots that make up said correction pattern printed by ejecting
ink droplets of said different size from said ejection head.